(3) Health Promotion Measures and Measures against Diseases

Health Centers and others

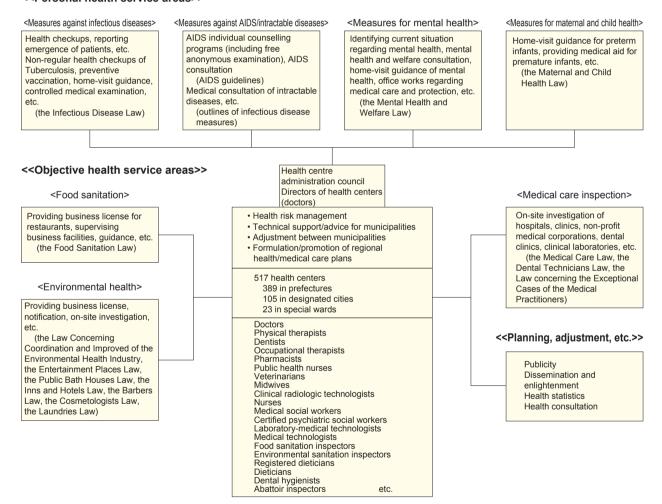
Overview

Activities of Health Centers

Health centers are front-line comprehensive public health administrative institutions to offer both personal and objective health services. Personal health services include broad-based services, those requiring specialized technologies, and services requiring team work of various health care professionals. In addition, health centers provide required technical support for health services of municipalities.

Health centers are established in 389 locations in 47 prefectures, 105 locations in 64 designated cities, and 23 locations in 23 special wards under the Community Health Law. (As of April 1, 2008)

<< Personal health service areas>>



^{*} In addition to these activities, health centers provide license for opening pharmacies (the Pharmaceutical Affairs Law), take custody of dogs to prevent the spread of rabies (the Rabies Protection Law), and accept applications for opening massage clinics, etc. (the Law for Practitioners of Massage, Finger Pressure, Acupuncture and Moxacauterization, etc.).

Changes in the Number of Health Centers

FY		1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total number of health centers		706	663	641	594	592	582	576	571	549	535	518	517
	Prefectures	525	490	474	460	459	448	438	433	411	396	394	389
	Cities	142	137	136	108	109	111	115	115	115	116	101	105
	Special wards	39	36	31	26	24	23	23	23	23	23	23	23

Source: Health Service Bureau, MHLW (Note) Numbers are as of April 1 in each year.

Detailed Data 1 Medical Personnel at Health Centers

Occupations	Number of personnel						
	(Unit: person)						
Doctors	856						
Dentists	81						
Pharmacists	2,569						
Veterinarians	2,131						
Clinical radiologic technologists, etc.	730						
Medical technologists, etc.	1,066						
Registered dieticians	1,045						
Dieticians	105						
Dental hygienists	323						
Physical/occupational therapists	102						
Public health nurses, etc.	7,847						
Others	10,895						
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Medical social workers	142						
Mental health welfare counselors	1,435						
Nutrition counselors	958						
Total	27,750						

Source: Modification of "Report on Regional Health Services and Health Services for the Elderly", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW (As of the end of FY 2006)

Detailed Data 2 Changes in the Number of Public Health Nurses

(Unit: person)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Municipalities	12,502	13,545	14,306	14,974	15,355	15,366	15,643	15,856	16,004	15,908	15,629	15,315	14,519
Designated cities/special wards	3,311	2,560	3,136	3,820	4,167	4,450	4,584	4,696	4,907	5,047	5,281	5,524	5,563
Subtotal	15,813	16,105	17,442	18,794	19,522	19,816	20,227	20,552	20,911	20,955	20,910	20,839	20,082
Prefectures	5,215	6,083	5,496	4,836	4,620	4,535	4,481	4,439	4,311	4,242	4,178	4,014	3,935
Total	21,028	22,188	22,938	23,630	24,142	24,351	24,708	24,991	25,222	25,197	25,088	24,853	24,017

Source: Data until FY 1994 by Health Service Bureau

"Report on Statistics of Activities of Health Centers", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW for FY 1995 and FY 1996

"Report on Regional Health Services", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW for FY 1997 and FY 1998

"Report on Regional Health Services and Health Services for the Elderly", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW from FY 1999 onward